THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A model scheme for grievance redressal procedure for staff and officers of the Public Sector Undertakings has been evolved by the Bureau of Public Enterprises. The scheme provides for setting up of grievance redressal committee at Unit/Regional level.

(b) and (c) A provision has been made in the Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985 to bring Public Sector Undertakings|Corporations | Societies under the Central Government, within the purview of the Central Administrative Tribunal by issue of a notification under section 14(2) of the Administrative Tribunals Act. The issue of such a notification covering Public Sector Undertakings may be considered by the Government when the Tribunal is fully equipped to take on the extra work load.

3141. [*Transferred to the 28th March, 1988*]

Public Grievances Committee

3142. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Public Grievances Committees at all the district headquarters in the country; and

(b) if so, by what date the process is likely to be completed and if not, what are the reasns therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The responsibility to set up Public Grievances Committees at the District level is directly of the State Governments. However, according to the information available, several States|Union Territories have set up Committees at the District level specifically to deal with public grievances. The Government of India has urged the State Governments from time to time to strengthen their machinery for redressal of public grievances. Recenly, Government of India has been organising workshops for Collectors on responsive district administration, in the course of which also, the need for ensuring a viable Grievances Redressal Committees at the district level has been stressed.

Schemes to minimise wasteful expenditure

3143. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are proposed to be taken to avoid such a situation as reported in the UNI Report, dated the 24th January, 1988 captioned "Project delays cost Rs. 15000 crores";

(b) whether as brought out in the above news item the reasons are mainly administrative lapses in taking decisions of various factors like project clearance, availability of import licences and similar reasons to avoid waste of such colossal ascarce resources; and

(c) whether Government have any scheme to minimise the wasteful expenditure and if so, what are the salient features?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) to (c) Time & Cost overrun of projects are on account of various reasons such as (i) Inadequate project preparation (ii) Problems in acquisition of land (iii) Delays in environmental/Forest clearance (iv) Delays in finalisation of detailed engineering (v) Delays in supply of equipments (imported as well as indigenous) (vi) Increase in input cost, including freight and additional imports (vii) Fluctuation in Foreign Exchange rates, etc. and are, therefore, not mainly attributable to administrative lapses.

Among the various steps taken to expedite project implementation, mention could be made of the following:

—Intensive monitoring of projects by the Ministry of Programme Implementation through monthly/quarterly monitoring system;

—Indepth periodical review of progress of projects by administrative Ministries and constant pressure on project authorties for expeditious completion;

—Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committee for problem solving and speedy implementation of projects;

—Close follow up by concerned Ministries and project authorities with State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays;

—Inter-ministerial coordination and interaction;

—Emphasis on preparation of realistic project implementation plan;

—Review of project implementation by the Cabinet Committee on Industrial Infrastructure;

—Issue of directions for ensuring continuity of tenure of project head until the completion of project and 2-3 years beyond to ensure accountability for project implementation.

Commission paid in HDW Submarine deal

3144. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the West German Government had in its reply to a question in the German Parliament on 11th June, 1987 admitted that in such deals commissions were paid;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the amount of commission that was paid to agents in the HDW submarine deal, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) The FRG Government have stated in their Parliament of being aware that payments of commission occur in such transactions; they have, however, not indicated whether payments were made in this case.

(b) and (c) On learning of the allegation of commissions having been paid to Indian Agents, the then Raksha Mantri had ordered certain inquiries by the agencies under the Ministry of Finance. The various inquiries have since been completed and the reports are presently under consideration.

HDW submarine deal

3145. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a ministerial inquiry of West Germany had recommended a fine of DM 50,000 because of grave offence of the HDW submarines detailed drawings, designs and techni-